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## Senate

The Senate met at 2:00 p.m. and was called to order by Nancy Erickson, Secretary of the Senate.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Immortal, invisible God only wise, the fountain of every blessing, we thank You for the life and legacy of Senator ROBERT C. BYRD, our friend and colleague whose death we grieve today. We praise You for his more than five decades of exemplary service to our Nation and the citizens of West Virginia, for the way he carried out his duties with integrity and faithfulness. We are grateful that he knew when to be the gadfly, to ask the tough questions, and to challenge the status quo.

Lord, You gave him courage to make course corrections both privately and publicly and empowered him to oppose without bitterness, to compromise with wisdom, and to yield without being defeated. I thank You that he was my friend.

Lord, we pray for his loved ones, our Senate family, and all who mourn his passing. May his many contributions to our Nation not be forgotten by this and succeeding generations. May all of us who had the privilege of knowing our Nation's longest serving legislator emulate his passion, patience, and perseverance. Give him a crown of righteousness and permit him to hear You say, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Secretary of the Senate led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The SECRETARY OF THE SENATE. The majority leader is recognized.

### MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mr. REID. I ask that the Senate observe a moment of silence for Senator BYRD.

(Moment of silence.)

### ELECTING SENATOR DANIEL K. INOUE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. REID. I have a resolution at the desk and ask for its consideration.

The SECRETARY OF THE SENATE. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 567) to elect DANIEL K. INOUE, a Senator from the State of Hawaii, to be President pro tempore of the Senate of the United States.

The resolution (S. Res. 567) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 567

*Resolved*, That Daniel K. Inouye, a Senator from the State of Hawaii, be, and he is hereby, elected President of the Senate pro tempore.

### ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

The SECRETARY OF THE SENATE. Without objection, Senator INOUE will be escorted to the desk.

The President pro tempore-elect, escorted by Mr. REID and Mr. AKAKA respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to him by the Secretary of the Senate; and he subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

Mr. INOUE thereupon assumed the chair as President pro tempore.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

### REMEMBERING SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD

Mr. REID. Mr. President, our Senate family grieves today with the Byrd family over the loss of one of the most dedicated Americans ever to serve this country; one of the most devoted men ever to serve his State; one of the most distinguished Senators ever to serve in the Senate.

ROBERT BYRD's mind was among the greatest the world has ever seen. As a boy, he was called upon, when he was in elementary school, to stand before the class and recite not paragraphs from the assignment of the night before but pages of the night before. He did this from memory.

From his graduation as valedictorian of his high school class at the age of 16 to his death this morning as the Senate's President pro tempore at age 92, he mastered everything he touched with great thoughtfulness and skill. This good man could drive from his home here in Washington to West Virginia and back—it took 8 hours—reciting classic poetry the entire time, and not recite the same poem twice.

I was asked by Senator BYRD to travel to West Virginia to do an exchange with the British Parliament. There were a number of us there, eight or nine Senators, and a like number of British Parliamentarians. I can remember that night so well. We had the music up there he liked the best—bluegrass music—and they played. It was a festive evening.

Then it came time for the program. In the program, Senator BYRD said: I am going to say a few things. And he passed out little notebooks. He had notebooks passed out to everyone there with a little pencil. He wanted to make sure everything was just right; that people, if they had something to write, had something to write on and write with. And he proceeded, standing there without a note, to pronounce the reign of the British monarchs, from the beginning to the end. He would give the

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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